

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 17 NOV 2005

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Applicant's or agent's file reference P86798	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/010370	International filing date (day/month/year) 14.07.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.07.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01R9/24, H01R13/00			
Applicant YAZAKI CORPORATION et al.			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 3 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the International application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - Box No. I Basis of the opinion
 - Box No. II Priority
 - Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
 - Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - Box No. VI Certain documents cited
 - Box No. VII Certain defects in the International application
 - Box No. VIII Certain observations on the International application

Date of submission of the demand 13.01.2005	Date of completion of this report 15.11.2005
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - Gitschner Str. 103 D-10958 Berlin Tel. +49 30 25901 - 0 Fax: +49 30 25901 - 840	Authorized Officer Segerberg, T Telephone No. +49 30 25901-777

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**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/010370

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements* of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

Description, Pages

1-21 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-5 received on 09.02.2005 with letter of 01.02.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1/8-8/8 as originally filed

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages
- the claims, Nos.
- the drawings, sheets/figs
- the sequence listing (specify):
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages
- the claims, Nos.
- the drawings, sheets/figs
- the sequence listing (specify):
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/010370

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-5
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-5
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-5
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/010370

Re Item V

**Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or
industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

- 1.1 The following documents are referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1 US-B-6299472
D2 US-B-6555746
D3 EP-A-0387158

- 2.1 The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 33(1)-(3) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1-5 is not new in the sense of Article 33(1)-(3) PCT.
- 2.2 The document D1 discloses (cf. column 2, line 64 - column 4, line 29; *column 6, lines 8 to 14; figure 1*):

A block structure (10) having a case base (12) and a case cover (14), said case holding a terminal (104) connected to a wire (122), said case base having a cutout (58, 60) through which said wire is bent and guided out, an outside opening of said cutout being covered by said case cover, said case cover having a projection pressing on said wire from above, and *an illuminant disposed in the case connected to the terminal*.

The subject-matter of claims 1 and 2 is therefore not new (Article 33(1)-(3) PCT).

- 2.3 Dependent claims 3-5 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty.

Claims**1. (Currently amended)**

An electric equipment module structure comprising a case having a base and a cover, wherein the case being disposed a terminal, an electric wire connecting the terminal being arranged in the base, a cutout portion being disposed in the base to bend and guide out the electric wire, an illuminant is disposed in the case, the terminal being electrically conducted to the illuminant, and an outside opening of the cutout portion being closed by the cover from above.

2. The electric equipment module structure described in claim 1, characterized in that a projection pressing the electric wire at the cutout portion is disposed, the electric wire being bent along the projection.

3. (Currently amended)

The electric equipment module structure as claimed in claim 1 or 2, the base and cover having a connection portion at one end and a connected portion at another end, respectively, a plurality of cases being possible to connect mutually.

4. The electric equipment module structure described in claim 3, characterized in that the connection portion biases the base

and cover to the closing direction.

5. The electric equipment module structure described in claim
1 or 2, characterized in that a constitution of the electric
5 equipment module structure described in claim 3 or 4 is
provided.

6. (Cancelled)

Argument based on Section 19

Doc-1: US-B-6299472

Doc-2: US-B-6555746

Doc-3: EP-A-0387158

With regard to claim 1:

Doc-1 is a connector for a trunk line and a branch line. Doc-1 discloses that the second component (cover) 14 is then hinged upwardly and over on to the first component 12, by movement in the direction of an arrow 136 shown in FIG. 1. See column 4, lines 30 to 32. Doc-1 does not disclose that an outside opening of the cutout portion is closed by the cover from above in the present invention.

Doc-2 discloses that the component retention socket 100 further includes a lid 130 movably attached, by any means known in the art, to the socket housing 102 proximate an upper surface 126 thereof, such that the lid 130 may be moved between an open position shown in FIG. 1 and a closed position shown in FIG. 2. See column 3, lines 60 to 65. FIG. 10 and 11 shows a slidble arrangement. See column 6, lines 5 to 9. Doc-2 does not disclose that an outside opening of the cutout portion is closed by the cover from above. Claim 6 is combined into claim 1 to further restrict claim 1.

With regard to claim 2:

The present invention provides a sufficient strain-relief function with projections 13 which depress an electric wire downwardly at cutout portions 12. See page 14, lines 10 to 15.

In Doc-1, the conductors 132 and 134 are bent downwardly by the two ledges 52 and the flaps 68 and 70 as shown in FIG. 4. See column 4, lines 56 to 63. If the flaps 68 and 70 are supposed to be the projections 13 of the present invention, the outwardly projecting two ledges 52 are different from the cutout portions 12.

Doc-2 does not disclose the projections and the cutouts.

With regard to claim 3:

Doc-3 discloses a connection of connectors. Since claim 3 is amended to be dependent to claim 1 or 2, the rejection will be overcome.

With regard to claim 6:

Claim 6 is combined into claim 1 to show a distinct difference from Doc-1 and Doc-2.